BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 83C - Juvenile Services

Section 2-131

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## Article 83C - Juvenile Services

2-131.

- (a) In this section, "foster parent" includes an individual who cares for a child on an emergency basis under a shelter care program.
- (b) (1) The Department shall provide liability insurance for foster parents who care for children under foster parent programs.
- (2) Subject to a reasonable deductible limit, which the Department shall set, the liability insurance shall provide coverage for:
- (i) Bodily injury and property damage that a foster child causes to the person or property of a person other than a foster parent; and
- (ii) Actions against a foster parent by a natural parent for any accident to the foster child.
- (c) (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Secretary shall reimburse a foster parent for costs of bodily injury or property damage that the foster child causes to the foster parent and that insurance does not cover.
- (2) Before reimbursement under this subsection, the Secretary shall be satisfied that the actions of the foster parent did not contribute substantially to the bodily injury or property damage sustained.
- (3) Reimbursement under this subsection shall be made for all costs to a maximum amount of \$5,000. However, all payments in excess of [\$500] \$2,000 require the approval of the Board of Public Works.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1995.

Approved April 11, 1995.